

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:EUR/WE:AHUGHES

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TO ALL NATO CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 304794

FOLLOWING REPEAT BELGRADE 8882 ACTION SECSTATE INFO MADRID
MOSCOW USMISSION USNATO DEC 15

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 8882

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US, SP, NATO, YU

SUBJECT: SPAIN, NATO, AND THE YUGOSLAV ARGUMENT

REF: STATE 295322

1. AGREE WITH REFTEL'S ARUGMENTS AND WOULD SUPPORT THEIR USE
TO COUNTER SOVIET/EE SUGGESTIONS THAT POSSIBLE MEMBERSHIP OF
SPAIN IN NATO WOULD IN SOME WAY COMPEL YUGOSLAVIA TO ADHERE
TO WARSAW PACT. SPANISH EMBOFF HERE MAINTAINS THAT YUGOSLAVS
HAVE NEVER RAISED THE ISSUE. AND IN THIS REGARD, HE ADDED
THAT YUGOSLAVS HAVE SAID THEY WERE PREPARED TO SUPPORT MADRID
AS NEXT CSCE FOLLOWUP SITE SO LONG AS OTHER NEUTRALS/NON-
ALIGNED DO NOT AGREE ON ANOTHER VENUE, THIS WITHOUT ANY
REFERENCE TO SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IN NATO.

2. TO THE DEPARTMENT'S POINTS, WE WOULD ADD ONLY THE FOLLOWING:

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A) THE YUGOSLAVS HAVE WARMLY WELCOMED THE SPANISH MOVE TO
DEMOCRACY AND THEY APPRECIATE A POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE WHICH
PERMITS THE PSOE AND PCE TO COMPETE. DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS WITH SPAIN WERE ESTABLISHED ONLY EARLY THIS
YEAR, AND ACCORDING TO BOTH SIDES HAVE PROCEEDED
POSITIVELY. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE GOY WOULD ALLOW ITSELF
TO BE USED AS A PRESSURE TACTIC AGAINST A SPANISH

DECISION WHICH DEMONSTRABLY WOULD NOT ALTER THE WESTERN EUROPE DEFENSE STRUCTURE STATUS QUO NOR THREATEN EITHER THE SECURITY OF YUGOSLAVIA OR THE BUDDING YUGOSLAV-SPANISH RELATIONSHIP.

B) TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, THE YUGOSLAVS THEMSELVES HAVE NOT EXPRESSED ANY ANXIETY ABOUT POSSIBLE SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IN NATO, NOR OBVIOUSLY ANY INTEREST IN ABANDONING ITS BASIC ORIENTATION OF NON-ALIGNMENT.

C) YUGOSLAVIA'S DESIRE FOR INDEPENDENCE WAS CLEARLY SHOWN AFTER BREZHNEV'S NOVEMBER 1976 VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA DURING WHICH HE, INTER ALIA, REPORTEDLY TRIED TO TALK TITO INTO A CLOSER YUGOSLAV/WP RELATIONSHIP. AFTER ONLY AN EMBARRASSINGLY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, THE YUGOSLAVS IN A CALCULATED FASHION LEAKED REPORTS OF BREZHNEV'S "UNSUCCESSFUL DEMANDS" AGAINST TITO PROBABLY IN ORDER TO FORTIFY TITO'S PRIVATE REFUSAL TO ACCEDE TO THE SOVIET'S REQUESTS AND TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

WORTZEL

UNQUOTE VANCE

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